

# Investments in Land Still Seem Fairly Safe, Long Range Policy

By REYNOLDS KNIGHT  
Investment in the good earth still appears to be a fairly safe, long-range proposition, whether it is used for agricultural purposes, suburban development, new factory sites or highway rights-of-way.

Government economists now indicate that there may be a general stability in farm land values in the coming months, which is a reversal of their pessimistic outlook of last spring.

Undoubtedly they are basing their predictions, at least to some extent, on optimistic prospects for farm income, which now runs at a \$12.8 billion annual rate, up from \$12.6 billion in the first half of the year and \$11.7 billion for all of 1960.

THE INDEX of farm land prices stood at 175 per cent of the 1947-49 average as of last March 1, compared with 172 per cent four months earlier.

Despite the low return on investments in farms — averaging only 3 per cent in 1960, down from 7 per cent in 1955 — the long term upward trend in farm land prices reflects the growing trend toward industrial development and the trend toward suburban development.

INFANT WEAR UPTURN—The effects of the population explosion are being felt in many quarters, but especially so in the retailing of infants wear.

Lloyd F. LaBarre, superintendent of soft goods buying for F. W. Woolworth Co., said, "The increase in sales of infants apparel has been very good and certainly illustrates a consumer demand. This has encouraged us to continue enlarging our lines of apparel and to increase the selling space devoted to infants' supplies in our stores." Woolworth operates 2075 stores in all 50 states and Puerto Rico.

Manufacturers have kept pace with the times in use of materials and style in infants wear. In fact, they have even brought out some items that are real money savers for budget conscious mothers.

ONE SUCH item is called a "Sleep and Play Suit" made of stretch nylon that a child can wear from the age of six months to 18 months. Not a bad idea for today's larger families.

With wearing apparel manufacturers moving at a brisk pace to fill today's demands, this increase in infants wear now gives retailers and manufacturers even brighter prospects for the future.

NEW SPACE ENGINE — A compact, electrical space engine, capable of operating indefinitely by battery and solar cell power, was unveiled by Republic Aviation Corporation at its Long Island, N.Y., plant this week.

The new lightweight engine, which obtains its thrust from the magnetic "pinching" of an inert gas such as nitrogen, is described as "the only electrical engine in existence capable of operating today just as it will in actual use in spaceships and satellites." The company expects to have a "flyable" model ready for space flight early next year, according to Alfred E. Kunen, director of the company's Plasma Propulsion Laboratory.

THE ENGINE has undergone extensive test demonstrations at the electrical and advanced propulsion branch of the Propulsion Laboratory of the Aeronautical Systems Division at Wright Field. During these tests, Kunen said, direct thrust measurements were taken

which indicate a greater thrust-potential than that of any other electrical space propulsion system under development.

Although many details of the new engine are classified, it meets practical requirements, both size and weight, for actual space ship satellite use. It can be operated continuously in near and deep space for years without service of any kind.

THINGS TO COME — The nimble-fingered lock picker may find rough sledding with introduction of a new pick-proof lock featuring a design for the key, keyway and internal locking mechanism in

which conventional keys cannot fit... Handy this winter will be a radiator cap with a diameter about one-and-a-half times that of a metal radiator cap, which protects hands from being burned when removing it from a steaming radiator... Delicate roots and plants shipped by nurserymen or florists may now be protected by crepe paper coated with tough plastic which permits the plants to breathe, yet retain moisture and prevent light penetration and mold growth... The "do-it-yourself" advocate will find that a new small soldering iron with convenient 120-volt operation can do the job conveniently and safely

without too much effort either at home or on the job.

BEEF A LA CANADIAN — Droughts in western Canada this year, one of the driest seasons on record, have curtailed feed supplies to the point where cattle shipments across the U.S. border since the start of July total about 80,000 head, up from 8000 a year ago. Although 80 per cent of the animals are lean, they will be fattened on grain before packers convert them into steaks and roasts for U.S. consumers.

BITS O' BUSINESS — Hurricane Carla apparently will have little effect on rice con-

# Area Aquarium Society to Meet

The September meeting of the Harbor Aquarium Society will be held tonight at 8 in the Recreation Hall at McMasters Park, 174th and Yukon.

The feature of the evening will be the showing of color slides of aquarium homes at San Francisco, Oakland, and Long Beach.

The business of this meeting will be the final registration

sumers in this country although it may cut into supplies for export... Poultry consumption this year probably will be up as much as 8.6 per cent over 1960, or 38 pounds per capita, in view of existing depressed prices.

of entries for the seventh aquarium show of the Harbor Aquarium Society to be presented under the sponsorship of the Recreation and Parks Dept. in the Ocean View Room at the Cabrillo Marine Museum during the commemoration days of the 26th anniversary of the founding of the museum in San Pedro. The Museum and Aquarium Show are free of charge. The Commemoration Days dates are Oct. 6, 7, and 8.

The showfish of the month for this club meeting will be the Platies. The door prize will be a five gallon aquarium with hood. Refreshments will be served after the meeting. The public is welcome.

# Measles, Mumps End Summer Run

Torrance school children apparently had completed their run of measles, mumps, and other diseases in time for the first days of school, according to figures compiled by the Los

Angeles Health Department. Reports for the week ending Sept. 16 show that the only reportable diseases found in Torrance were two cases of strep infection.

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Super-Absorbent  
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MADE BY PET MILK COMPANY  
Liquid nourishment for weight control  
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Both Twin and Double Size  
Washable • Math-Proof • Obsolete Pastel Colors **\$11.88**

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Decongestant Tablets  
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